

Appl. No. : 10/063,617
Filed : May 3, 2002

REMARKS

Claims 4 and 5 have been canceled. Applicants maintain that the cancellation of a claim makes no admission as to its patentability and reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the cancelled claim in this or any other patent application. Claim 12 has been amended to change the claim dependency from canceled Claim 4, to Claim 6.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment conforms to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 as it places the claims in better form for appeal. The amendment does not necessitate a new search, does not raise an issue of new matter, does not present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims, and does not otherwise introduce new issues (*see* M.P.E.P. § 1207). Therefore Applicants respectfully request that the amendment be entered for purposes of appeal.

CONCLUSION

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if any issues might be resolved by telephone.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

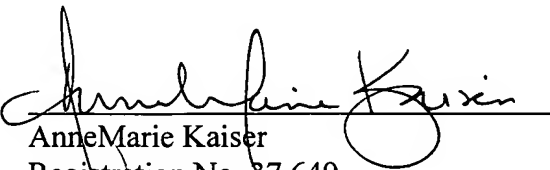
Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated:

Sept. 23, 2005

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